

REMARKS

This Amendment is directed to the Office Action mailed February 26, 2008 setting a three month shortened statutory period for response expiring on May 26, 2007. Claims 19-34 are now pending. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the Office Action is respectfully requested in view of the amendment to claim 19 above and the following remarks.

A telephonic interview with Examiner Haider and his supervisor Ryan Zeender was held on April 29, 2008. The undersigned attorney greatly appreciates the time expended by the Examiners in discussing Mahoney (US Patent No. 5,502,806). Agreement was reached with respect to the substance of language to be added in claim 19 to distinguish over this primary reference cited in the Office Action. Claims 19 has been so amended. Amended claim 19, as set forth above, now recites "loading the patron having the allocated return time to the attraction during the return time in preference to the patrons not having the allocated return time; and, loading the attraction on a first-in first-out basis for the patrons not having the allocated return time unless the patron having the allocated return time is present and preferentially loaded during the return time."

The quoted language above from claim 19 is internally consistent. The return time feature of Applicant's claimed invention operates to minimally impede the first in-first out line during loading while simultaneously accommodating those patrons that are loaded preferentially during the return time. In the last clause, the language "and preferentially loaded" is consistent with the previous clause and constrains the times at which the first in -first out patrons are pre-empted. This substantially differs from the reservation system as is specifically taught by Mahoney and which has been discussed in detail in response to previous Office Actions.

At least for the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that independent Claim 19, as now amended, is not rendered obvious by Mahoney in view of Decker either together or in combination with any of the other cited references. Claims 20-34 depend from amended claim 19. Therefore, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 20-34 are not rendered obvious by the

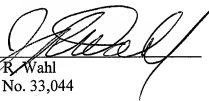
cited references either. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections to Claims 19-34 now be withdrawn and claims 19-34 allowed.

Conclusion

Applicants submit that this amendment is responsive to all points in the Office action, is in accordance with agreement reached in the Examiner Interview, and that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Should matters remain, which the Examiner believes could be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to telephone the Applicants' undersigned attorney at (303) 685-7460. The Director is authorized to charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s), or to credit any overpayments to Deposit Account Number **50-2638**. Please ensure that Attorney Docket Number 58085-010203 is referred to when charging any payments or credits for this case.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 8, 2008



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LA 127,240,148v1 4/30/2008